

## A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON TEAM COHESION AMONG BATSMEN AND SPIN BOWLERS IN CRICKET

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to compare the team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers who participated in the 2012 Buck Cricket Tournament was conducted by YMCA College of physical education, Chennai. The study was administered on 20 batsmen and 20 spin bowlers in the age group of 18 to 25 and completed the Group environment questionnaire (Carron, A.V et., al. 1985). Batsmen have an average to moderate skill in Team Cohesion and Spin bowlers need more time is required to spend in the team cohesion. The obtained T ratio value on the score of team cohesion 1.235 was lower than the required table value of 2.024, which proved that there was no significant difference on team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers in cricket. Finally batsmen have dominated more team cohesion than the spin bowlers.

**Key Word:** Team Cohesion, Cricket, spin bowlers, batsmen

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### INTRODUCTION

Sport psychology has played a significant role in the understanding, training and ultimately the use of mental skills for peak performance. According to Smith R (1994), a former English Cricketer, “Cricket is played in the mind, more than any other game” [1].

Carron, A.V et., al. (1985) developed the Group Environment Questionnaire (GEQ), which is based on a conceptual model in which cohesion is considered to be a result of four primary constructs: Individual Attractions to the Group-Task, which reflects a member's feelings about his or her personal involvement with the group's task; Individual Attractions to the Group-Social, a member's feelings about his or her personal social interactions with the group; Group Integration-Task, a member's perceptions of the similarity and unification of the group as a whole around its tasks and objectives; and Group Integration-Social, a member's perception of the similarity and unification of the group as a social unit [2].

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **Selection of the subjects:**

The purpose of the study was to find out the comparative analysis on team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers in cricket. To achieve the purpose of the study 20 batsmen and 20 spin bowlers (age 18 to 25) were selected from the 2012 Buck Cricket Tournament was conducted by YMCA College of physical education, Chennai. More specifically, the matches according to the Inter College level Cricket tournament. The cricketers completed the questionnaire voluntarily.

### **Questionnaire:**

The Group Environment Questionnaire (Carron et., al. 1985) was used to assess cohesion. This is a self-report questionnaire that contains 18 items [2]. Four aspects of cohesion are assessed: Individual Attractions to the Group-Task (4 items), Individual Attractions to the Group-Social (5 items), Group Integration-Task (5 items) and Group Integration-Social (4 items). Responses are provided on a 9-point Likert scale anchored at the extremes by „strongly disagree“ (1) and „strongly agree“ (9). Thus, higher scores reflect stronger perceptions of cohesiveness.

## **STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

The data analysed and compared with the help of statistical procedure in which arithmetic mean, standard deviation and t-test used to compare the data.

## **RESULT**

The value of calculated t-test was compared with the tabulated significant value at 0.05 level of confidence with 95 degree of freedom. The details for comparative mean value and SD values on team cohesion were tabulated and presented below:

**Table I****Mean, SD, SE and T ratio on team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers**

S.No.		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	T ratio
1	Batsmen	20	1.160	12.127	2.711	1.235
2	Spin Bowlers	20	1.114	11.422	2.554	

**\*Significant 38df at 0.05 level 2.024**

Table I reveals that the mean values on team cohesion of the batsmen were 1.160 and spin bowlers were 1.114 respectively. The obtained T ratio value on the score of team cohesion 1.235 was lower than the required table value of 2.024, which proved that there was no significant difference on team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers in cricket. Batsmen have dominated more team cohesion than the spin bowlers.

## DISCUSSION ON FINDING

Cricketers always want a quick fix, something that works immediately, and if it does not work fast, they are prone to throw it away and not try it again. This may be true of both the mental and technical parts of the game.

## CONCLUSION

There was no significant difference on team cohesion among batsmen and spin bowlers in cricket. Batsmen have dominated more team cohesion than the spin bowlers.

## REFERENCES

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2. A.V Carron, W.N. Widmeyer, and L.R. Brawley, The Development of an Instrument to Assess Cohesion in Sport Teams: The Group Environment Questionnaire, *Journal of Sport Psychology*, 7 (1985) 244-266.

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